



NEWS RELEASE

Department of Technology and Information

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STATE OF DELAWARE PRACTICES RESPONSE TO CYBER ATTACK Exercise closes out Cyber Security Awareness Month

Smyrna – How will Delaware State Government respond and recover from a real-world attack on their critical infrastructure? On October 27, 2010, approximately 70 participants converged on the Delaware Emergency Management Agency for a day-long drill to answer that question. Representatives included the Delaware State Police, FBI, Governor’s Office, Courts, Department of State, Department of Corrections, Delaware National Guard, Treasurer’s Office, and the cities of Wilmington and Dover. The annual exercise allows State organizations to work together to mitigate cyber threats to protect the critical infrastructure of the State’s services to citizens.

“Cyber security threats are real, growing, and changing as fast as the technologies we use,” said Governor Jack Markell. “We can better protect critical state information by fully informing ourselves, engaging in exercises like these and preparing for the many possibilities that could breach our networks of information.”

Delaware’s 6th annual drill was kicked off by opening remarks from Senator Tom Carper, Secretary Lewis D. Schiliro, Secretary of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security, and Jim H. Sills III, State Chief Information Officer and Secretary of the Department of Technology and Information.

“The threat of a cyber attack is one of the top threats to our nation,” said Senator Carper, a senior Member of the Senate Homeland Security Committee and a co-author of comprehensive cyber security reform legislation. “As Cyber Security Month comes to an end, I hope Delawareans and all Americans are more informed about the threats we face and the impact cyber criminals and terrorists could have. From our infrastructure to our economy to our national defense programs, technology is an essential component of our lives. We need to do more to protect ourselves from those who would do us harm. I am particularly proud that Delaware continues to be a leader in educating others about the importance of being safe online and preparing Delaware’s workforce to better protect the critical information infrastructure of the First State and our country.”

The exercise was designed and planned by the Department of Technology and Information and is an integral part of a comprehensive 6-year old exercise program, designed to increase the State’s ability to detect, respond to, and recover from an attack. Yesterday’s

exercise concludes October's activities for the State's Cyber Security Awareness Campaign, a nationwide program that educates internet users of all ages on cyber security including safe computing and internet practices.

State Chief Information Officer Jim Sills stated, "We have a responsibility to safeguard the State's systems while also providing training and exercises to ensure State employees and citizens are aware of the cyber threats that can have an adverse affect in our daily lives."

Delaware will continue to offer information on Cyber Security and events throughout the year. For more information, contact the Delaware Department of Technology and Information at 302-739-9631 or visit www.dti.delaware.gov

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